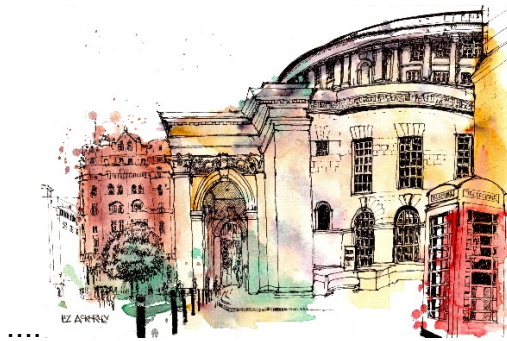


# M&LFHS Newsletter

The monthly newsletter of the  
Manchester & Lancashire Family  
History Society



## **February 2023 Issue 34**

### **SOCIETY CONTACTS**

Website: - <https://www.mlfhs.uk>

Newsletter editor: - [newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk)

Bookshop: - [bookshop@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bookshop@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS Office: - [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk)

The Manchester Genealogist: - [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk) or [editor@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS mailing address: Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society,  
3rd Floor, Manchester Central Library, St. Peters Square, Manchester, M2 5PD.

### **SOCIETY BRANCHES**

Oldham Branch of MLFHS - <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham>

Bolton Branch of MLFHS - <http://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton>

Anglo-Scottish Branch of MLFHS – <http://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots>

### **EDITOR'S COMMENTS**



Just before this newsletter went to press I received the following from NoraMcDonald

Sorry to be the bearer of sad news but Joan has asked me to inform his many friends that Bernard Steele passed away peacefully last Friday January 20th. Bernard's funeral will take place on Wednesday February 15th at 10.30am at St Stephens church Orford near Birchwood Warrington.

Bernard was a long standing member of the Society and was made a Fellow on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Many will remember Bernard volunteering on the Help Desk at the library. He will be missed by many.

Pandemic Retrospective - Part 2 is the Second of a 3 part series produced by Archives+ describing the pandemics that have affected our lives and those of our ancestors. You will find a link to Part 2 on page 11.

As I mentioned in the January newsletter the Society has decided to phase out the publication of CDs and replace with downloads. Two recent additions to our catalogue are described further in this newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

I recently received a mail from Amazon which reads (in part) as follows:-

Ten years ago, we launched AmazonSmile to make it easier for customers to support their favourite charities. However, since launch, the programme has not grown to create the impact that we had originally hoped.

AmazonSmile represents a very small portion of the total charitable contributions made through our other programmes, which we estimate at more than £100 million in 2021.

We are writing to let you know that we plan to wind down AmazonSmile by February 20, 2023. We will continue to pursue and invest in other programmes that we know will have more impact—from providing support to families in need, to using our logistics infrastructure and technology to assist communities impacted by natural disasters.

We recognise that these are difficult times for everyone, including charities, so we are providing an additional one-time donation to participating charities equivalent to six months of what they earned through the programme in 2022, and they will also be able to accrue additional donations until the program officially closes in February.

Thank you to all our members who have supported us by signing up to this scheme. I will let you know the total amount raised later in the year.

Barry Henshall

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

#### **Change of Editor of The Manchester Genealogist**

Hi all, since the end of the year Rhondda Griffiths has been appointed Editor of The Manchester Genealogist [TMG]. Rhondda becomes the 19<sup>th</sup> Editor engaged by the Society to manage its prestigious magazine and I anticipate she will enhance our keynote publication in the same way as all our former editors have done.

Rhondda replaces Patricia Etchells, who retires after almost 13 years as Editor. Pat has handled momentous events from the start of her tenure. 2010 was the moment when the Society determined that its future meant relocation to the cultural heart of Manchester Central Library - and a commitment to the Archives+ partnership. Since then, her editorials have featured significant topics as diverse as the release of the 1911 Census, bank failures during the post Napoleonic era, the launch of the Society's Explorer scheme, extended opening times for the Helpdesk once installed in Central Library, and introduced a series of articles on the growing science of DNA testing and its relationship with Family History. Her tenure ended with editions devoted to women's suffrage, the Peterloo bi-centenary and the onset of the Covid pandemic. Most recently a bumper edition of 128 pages was devoted to the launch of the 1921 Census. Some career – our thanks go to Pat for her sterling contribution. We do not lose her, of course, Pat continues to lead one of our Helpdesk teams.

How fortunate we are that we have members with such a range of talents, beyond their research skills

David Muil

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY**

Please feel free to contact the office [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk) for enquiries about your membership. If contacting us please give your membership number and the surname of the member.

From the members area on the website you can make changes to your address and email.

If possible please use the on-line option on our new website to renew your subscription.

We now use Stripe so you can use Stripe or pay as a guest with your card.

Have you considered taking out a Bank Standing Order? It means you don't have to think about renewing and you can stop it at any time.

If you must pay by cheque please send to:

MLFHS  
17 Fortyacre Drive,  
Bredbury,  
SK6 2EZ

DO NOT send it to the office, we no longer take cash at the Helpdesk. The Click and Collect is now available from our shop.

Best wishes

Elsie

## **EVENTS/TALKS**

### **Manchester Branch**

At the time of writing there were no planned talks for February but please check our [website](#) at regular intervals

Booking: Eventbrite Tickets

Cost: members - free of charge

Cost: non-members - £3

Please check the website <https://mlfhs.uk/manchester/events/meetings> for more details and to register.

### **Advance notice**

Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society presents  
a family history fair for everyone.  
Discovering Family Lives

March 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Manchester Central Library  
Open from 10.00 am until 3.30 pm - Free entry

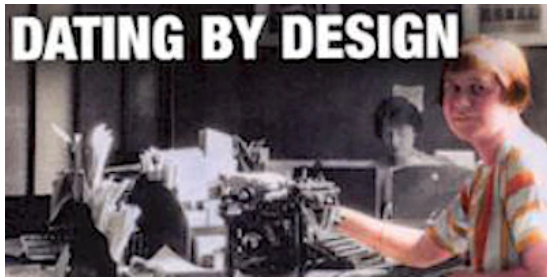
This is an opportunity to meet experts in the field of family history.

Beginners and those of you who have traced your ancestors will find much to interest you.

Our Help Desk will be open to offer guidance in knocking down those brick walls.

Societies from the local area will all be willing to help

## Bolton Branch



20th Century Photography identification. A Room or ZOOM meeting.

Date and time

Wed, 1 Feb 2023, 19:30 GMT

The 20th century has gone and lives on through our photos but can you tell whether the photo was taken in 1922 or 1940? Will your children and grandchildren look at old photos and know when they were taken by the state of your miniskirt or the Brylcreamed hair?

STEVE GILL, a skilled restorer of photographs and author of books on photograph dating will explain all in this talk which is based on his new book, "Dating by Design, vol 2, Twentieth Century".

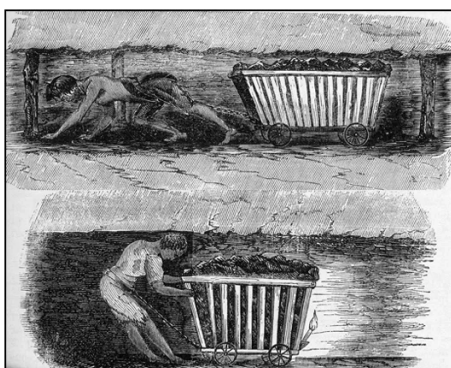
You can attend this meeting in person at Bolton Golf Club or via ZOOM with a ticket. The meeting is free for MLFHS members and £3 for non-members

Booking: [Eventbrite details here](#)

Bolton Golf Club  
Chorley New Road  
Bolton BL6 4AJ

Full details of Bolton Branch meetings <https://mlfhs.uk/bolton/events>

## Oldham Branch



### Pit Lasses - the Female Miners of 1842

An illustrated talk given by Denise Bates  
Saturday 11th February, at 2pm

DeniseBates is a historian and writer. Her interest in female miners started when she discovered that she was descended from one of them. The talk looks at the role of Women and girls working underground in coal mines.

A zoom only meeting.

\* Booking for attendance will be on [Eventbrite](#) and free to all.

Full details of Oldham Branch meetings <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events/meetings>



"Mother Dead, Father in Prison"  
by Kate Keter.

Date: 4 February 2023  
Day: Saturday, 2.00pm (UK time)

Venue: Online via Zoom  
Speaker: Kate Keter

Kate Keter is a genealogist, family historian and tutor in Family History at Strathclyde University with a specialism in Scottish research. In this talk Kate will show us how a single entry in a school admission register led to uncovering the stories of three generations of one family.

How much more could we discover about our Scottish families by looking at the school registers.

Booking: Will be on Eventbrite [Check details on the website](#)

Cost: members - free of charge

Cost: non-members - £3.00

Image: HH

Full details for the Anglo-Scots Branch meetings <https://mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events>.

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### Society of Genealogists Events in January

Live online events in January - March

More information can be found [HERE](#) and for the latest news and subscribe to their newsletter [HERE](#).

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### The National Archives

Our exciting programme of online talks is for everyone and delivered by experts, specialists and special guest speakers. When you book an event, you are invited to pay what you can – this is optional and entirely at the discretion of attendees. Some of our events remain completely free.

The National Archives also hosts a range of onsite events. To browse these, please see [Events at Kew](#) page.

Priority booking to all events

Get priority booking to all events every month when you subscribe to the weekly newsletter. Get priority booking – sign up to the [mailing list](#) now.



## BOOKSHOP



**Roman Catholic Baptisms**

**Our Lady of Grace,  
Prestwich: 1889-1923**

Images and transcripts of 1,017 baptisms  
plus an index to the 4,346 persons named in  
the above register entries

**Prestwich, Our Lady of Grace RC Church, Baptisms  
1889-1923 (Download)**

Code: DL1630  
**£5.00**

A scanned copy of the original baptism registers 1889-1923 complete with a transcript of the 1,017 baptisms performed and an index to the 4,346 names of children, parents and godparents which appear in the register.

More details at our [bookshop](#),



**Roman Catholic Baptisms**

**Our Lady of Mount  
Carmel, Ordsall:  
1877-1912**

Images and transcripts of 8,581 baptisms  
plus an index to the 36,570 persons named in  
the above register entries

**Ordsall, Our Lady of Mount Carmel RC Church,  
Baptisms 1877-1912 (Download)**

Code: DL1631  
**£5.00**

A scanned copy of the original baptism registers 1877-1912 complete with a transcript of the 8,581 baptisms performed and an index to the 36,570 names of children, parents and godparents which appear in the register.

More details at our [bookshop](#).

## PROJECTS UPDATE

The following update has been posted to Newspaper Announcements:-  
5,773 BMD announcements from Manchester Courier for 1842-43

719 reports of bigamy 1825-1860 to the Great Database.

Transcribed by Linda Bailey, Laura Lewis, Chris Norcross and Chris Hall

The following update has been posted to Godfrey Map Index

Added 231 references for Westhoughton 1907 and Wingates & Chew Moor 1927.

Indexed by John Gartside

Added 414 references for Rainsough, Kersal & Hilton Park 1907, Wardley 1904 and Worsley 1904. Indexed by Chris Willis.

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## HELPDESK

If you have not been into the library post-covid please put a date in your diary and pay us a visit. I think you will find the day very rewarding. If you have any questions, please drop the Society an email: [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS Family History Help Desk Hours: M-F 10:30 am-3:30 pm.

Page 6 of 12....[M&LFHS Newsletter February 2023](#)

## WEBSITES

**ROOTS Tech March 2-4**



Choose to join virtually (free) or in-person at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah.

[\*\*Register now\*\*](#)

### Family Tree



### Scottish Family History Month 2023

Join Family Tree from 1 February for a programme of six Zoom talks that present the latest ideas and resources for tracing your Scottish ancestors.

See the [programme](#) of talks and book your season pass to save money on all six talks (individual tickets also available).

### Ancestry

Over five million North Yorkshire parish records are now available on Ancestry.

The sets are:

North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1558–1812' (2,678,402 records);

North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813–1921' (1,432,220 records);

North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754–1937' (791,373 records);

North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813–1995' (411,099 records).

More news [HERE](#)

## UKBMD UPDATES

Message from John Marsden, Lancashire.

Hi All

New data has been added at [www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) as follows:

Amended 11,787 Births for Manchester RD to include mother's maiden name, comprising:  
Bradford (1908-1914)

Thanks are due to My Manchester Archives team for these.

---

Message from Ian Hartas, Kingston.

Hi,

We're pleased to announce that the 12th Local BMD Project website is now open for business. As with all the other Local BMD Project websites it's free to use and uses the same software, so its look and feel is the same as the others in the series.

Starting small it only has a relatively small number of records online so far, but it's a significant addition to the 50,000,000+ records provided so far by the others in the group.

The Register Office said:

"Kingston upon Thames Registration Service are delighted to announce that the Kingston BMD website is now live. This exciting project will look to digitise all of our local indexes with Kingston and BMD working closely together to make this happen. The site is being continually updated with searchable indexes of birth, death, marriage and civil partnerships, making family history research of Kingston events easier than ever. Use Kingston BMD to search for records from 1837 onwards, with more records being added regularly."

Many thanks to the Register Office and the volunteers who have been involved in this project so far.

As with all the other Local BMD Project websites it can be accessed via the link on the Local BMD page within the UKBMD website; searched as part of the Multi-Region search; or accessed directly in its own right via: [www.KingstonBMD.org.uk](http://www.KingstonBMD.org.uk)

The Kingston upon Thames BMD website has been updated to add:

Births:

4,998 for Kingston, registers at Kingston (1869-1874)

Many thanks to all those involved with these.

---

Message from Ian Hartas, Yorkshire.

Yorkshire BMD has been updated as follows:

Marriages: mainly additions, but some updates:

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6 for Pickering United Reformed Church, Ryedale, registers at Harrogate (1974-1998)  
 19 for Harrogate Harlow Hill Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1986-2010)  
 46 for Romanby, Methodist Chapel, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1978-2019)  
 13 for Harrogate, Kingdom Hall, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2001-2020)  
 18 for Brompton Methodist Church, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1972-2010)  
 9 for Grassington Congregational Church, Staincliffe, registers at Harrogate (2014-2020)  
 20 for Emmanuel St John URC, Scarborough, registers at Harrogate (2005-2021)  
 6 for Whitby St Ninian's RC Church, Whitby, registers at Harrogate (2010-2016)  
 5 for Harrogate Oxford St Methodist, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2004-2009)  
 17 for Harrogate, St Aelred RC Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2011-2021)  
 34 for Harrogate, St Pauls URC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1994-2019)  
 26 for United Reformed Church, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1984-2018)  
 7 for Harrogate, Bar Chapel Bilton Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2001-2013)  
 41 for Methodist Church, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (2011-2019)  
 102 for Harrogate, St Roberts RC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2005-2020)  
 13 for Tadcaster High St Methodist Church, Selby, registers at Harrogate (2001-2016)  
 271 for Harrogate Trinity Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1994-2019)  
 3 for Great Ayton Roman Catholic Church, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (2013-2018)  
 19 for Harrogate West Park URC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2005-2017)  
 13 for Harrogate Woodfield Gospel Hall, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1983-2020)  
 7 for Harrogate Woodlands Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2007-2019)  
 18 for Killinghall Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1975-2010)  
 3 for Kirkby Malzeard Ebenezer Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2004-2010)  
 20 for Stainton Dale Methodist Church, Scarborough, registers at Harrogate (1968-2006)  
 178 for Harrogate St Josephs RC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1984-2020)  
 20 for Hutton Rudby Methodist Chapel, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1988-2011)  
 23 for Knaresborough Methodist Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1999-2016)  
 9 for New Scriven Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2002-2012)  
 1 for Appleton Roebuck Methodist Church, Selby, registers at Harrogate (2001-2001)  
 11 for Knaresborough St Marys RC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2009-2017)  
 5 for Osmotherley Roman Catholic, registers at Harrogate (2014-2015)  
 68 for Park Street Methodist Church Masham, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1975-2017)  
 25 for Pateley Bridge Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1985-2019)  
 4 for Pateley Bridge Roman Catholic Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2011-2015)  
 57 for Ripon, Harrogate Rd Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1998-2020)  
 6 for Bishop Monkton Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2007-2017)  
 10 for Danby End Methodist Chapel, registers at Harrogate (2013-2019)  
 80 for Ripon, Allhallogate Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1973-2018)  
 67 for Ripon, St Wilfrids RC Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1996-2019)  
 1 for Scotton Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2003-2003)  
 35 for Sicklinghall, Immaculate Conception RC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2012-2021)  
 5 for Starbeck, Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2018-2020)  
 29 for Summerbridge Methodist Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1991-2017)  
 1 for Grewelthorpe Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2010-2010)  
 4 for Boroughbridge, Wesley Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2012-2016)  
 15 for Briggswath Methodist Church, Whitby, registers at Harrogate (2009-2019)  
 14 for Harrogate Church of Latter Day Saints, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2001-2020)  
 4 for Bishop Thornton, RC Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2015-2017)  
 14 for Knaresborough Gospel Hall, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2009-2021)  
 9 for Norwood Methodist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1998-2016)  
 15 for Darley Methodist Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1963-2018)  
 7 for West Tanfield Methodist Church, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1995-2019)  
 19 for Hampsthwaite Methodist Chapel, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1982-2016)

1 for Harrogate Baptist Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2020-2020)  
18 for Harrogate Bilton URC, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1994-2018)  
242 for Bishop Thornton Parish Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1864-2020)  
42 for Burnt Yates St Andrews Parish Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1960-2014)  
10 for Darley Parish Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (2006-2020)  
101 for Bolton Priory Church, St Mary & Cuthbert, Staincliffe, registers at Harrogate (2015-2019)  
17 for Greenhow Hill Parish Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1987-2020)  
169 for Hartwith, St Jude, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1931-2020)  
20 for Old Malton, St Mary the Virgin, Ryedale, registers at Harrogate (2016-2018)  
522 for St Chads Middlesmoor, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1837-2020)  
511 for Pateley Bridge, St Cuthbert, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1837-1883)  
21 for Crayke, St Cuthbert, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (2011-2015)  
298 for Easingwold, St John, Northallerton, registers at Harrogate (1972-2011)  
564 for Birstwith Parish Church, Claro, registers at Harrogate (1858-2020)  
21 for Hackness, St Peter, Scarborough, registers at Harrogate (2016-2019)

Many thanks to the Register Office and their volunteers for these.

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Message from Bill Harrison, Staffordshire.

Marriages:

63 for Caverswall, St Filumena's Roman Catholic Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2007-2019)  
2 for Leek, St Luke, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2020-2020)  
2 for Longnor, St Bartholomew, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2018-2019)  
38 for Bagnall, St Chad, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2008-2019)  
3 for Sheen, St Luke, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2018-2020)  
14 for Warslow, St Lawrence, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2006-2016)  
1 for Clayton, St Werburgh Roman Catholic Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2019-2019)  
11 for Madley, Poolside Methodist, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1997-2019)  
8 for Ashley, St Mary's Roman Catholic Chapel, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2013-2019)  
33 for Muckleston, St Mary, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2010-2019)  
37 for Broughton, St Peter, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1999-2018)  
12 for Croxton, St Paul, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2003-2019)

Marriages: Updated for corrections, etc.

87 for Draycott in the Moors (Cresswell), St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1979-2019)  
53 for Leek, St Luke, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2003-2019)  
13 for Quarnford, St Paul, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1997-2020)  
16 for Biddulph (Church Close and Church Road), Kingdom Hall, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1995-2019)

Births:

1,894 for Stoke, registers at Stoke-On-Trent (1962-1978)

For access to all the UK's major BMD and Census sites visit <https://www.UKBMD.org.uk/>  
For access to all the UK's major Family History sites visit <https://www.UKGD.org.uk/> For  
access to all the UK's major Military Family History sites visit <https://www.UKMFH.org.uk/>

## ORPHAN BMDs

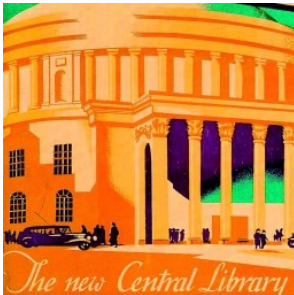
If you have any BMDs you no longer want then why not consider dropping them off at our Helpdesk or you can send them to:

M&LFHS

61 Queens Road, Urmston, M41 9HF

If you wish to keep your certificates then you can send scans, preferably as a PDF to [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk) and they will be passed on to me. If you have problems sending scans to this address then please contact me at [newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk) and I will suggest an alternative means of forwarding the PDF files.

## MANCHESTER ARCHIVES+



### **Pandemic Retrospective – Part 2 The provision of health services in Manchester in 1870s**

So what health services were available in the city 150 years ago? There were 3 main types of organisation where people could get medical care. Firstly there were voluntary hospitals, which were set up by wealthy citizens, some of which were quite small such as one on Canal Street. The largest hospital was the Manchester Royal Infirmary (m53025) which in 1871 was situated in Piccadilly. This hospital catered for a wide range of medical conditions from the treatment of infectious diseases to surgical procedures and also included a lunatic asylum.

You will find the full article [HERE](#).

Why not visit the Manchester Archives+ [website](#) where you can sign up for their Blog via e-mail and also delve into a huge collection of subjects. Just click on 'categories' for a complete list.

## NORTH WEST SOUND HERITAGE

### Unlocking our Sound Heritage

Thousands of cassettes, open reels, CDs and MiniDiscs are sitting in archives, museums, libraries and in people's homes all over the UK. All kinds of unique live music, radio and conversation are recorded on these tapes and discs. We've already lost many of the people captured on them. And the British Library estimates that we have fifteen years to preserve the sounds themselves.

That's why the British Library has received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to establish Unlocking Our Sound Heritage, an exciting new national project to save thousands sounds which are at risk of being lost forever.

Archives+ is the hub partner for the North West region, which covers Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. We'll be digitising around 15,000 recordings on 5,000 cassettes, reels and optical discs held all over the region here at Manchester Central Library.

This is a fascinating site providing a flavour of times gone by. If you are a food and drink enthusiast then discover what not to eat and drink before a performance!

Find more information [here](#).

## **NORTH WEST FILM ARCHIVE**

Welcome to the [North West Film Archive](#), the professionally recognised public home for the moving image heritage of the North West of England.

### **WHO WE ARE**

From historical footage and home movies to newsreels and adverts, we find, preserve and share over 50,000 items of film and video, for public, educational and professional use. We love film and how it can open a window into the past and the present in ways that can be powerful, moving and unexpected.

Part of Manchester Met, and based within Manchester Central Library's Archives+ partnership, we are a specialist resource dedicated to saving and growing our region's rich filmed history.

### **WHAT WE DO**

Do you need some footage for teaching, broadcasting or an artistic or community project?

Do you have film of our region's people or places that needs looking after?

Whoever you are, if you need a professional and friendly service, we're here to help.

We offer:

- research support and loan or licence of footage (including for professional broadcast)
- bespoke learning and teaching support
- opportunities to hire or watch unusual and interesting films, with a local and historical theme
- opportunities for community engagement and collaboration
- a home for the region's film and video, where moving images are professionally preserved, stored and made available, for now and for the future

This is a site well worth visiting The NWFA was set up in 1977 and preserves moving images made in or about Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cheshire, Merseyside and Cumbria and offers a variety of access services to users in the public, academic and commercial sectors.



<https://www.facebook.com/MandLFamilyHistory>



and Twitter

M&L Family History@MLFH





# FAMILY HISTORY Federation

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

## REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

No 29

January 2023

Welcome to the first edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin* in 2023!

*Inside find...*

A lead article this month to extend your research: *A Window on Heraldry*  
plus news from local FHS and from the Federation

MY ANCESTOR WAS A...

**LUNATIC**  
KATHY CHATER  
A guide to sources for family historians

RU BULLETIN EXCLUSIVE

MY ANCESTOR WAS AN...

**Agricultural Labourer**  
IAN H WALLER FSG

MY ANCESTOR WAS A...

**Leather Worker**  
IAN WALLER FSG  
to sources for family historians

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Offer valid until 31st January 2023

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EMMA JOLLY  
AIR OFFICE A guide to sources for family historians

**The Royal Navy**  
IAN WALLER FSG  
A guide to sources for family historians

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/)





# Really Useful Bulletin

## A Window on Heraldry

Ann Ballard, LHG

### Introduction

Heraldry is all around us, as part of individual and community history, and heraldic arms continue to be granted today to individuals from all walks of life, also to civic and corporate organisations, as well as ecclesiastical bodies and institutions.

Heraldry is displayed on church monuments, stained-glass windows, public buildings, pub signs, university prospectuses, school uniforms, old maps, headed paper, sportswear, postage stamps and even the coins of the realm. It is subject to varying levels of regulation in jurisdictions around the world.

### What is Heraldry?

A generally accepted definition of Heraldry was stated by Anthony Wagner, Garter King of Arms (1961-1978), as *the systematic use of hereditary devices centred upon a shield*.

A coat of arms is granted specifically to an individual and their descendants - having the same surname alone does not give entitlement to a coat of arms.

Heraldry has a language of its own. In the same way that learning to speak another language can provide information, knowledge, and extend horizons, heraldry can be a really valuable tool for the family and local historian.

### A Short History!

Heraldry traces its roots in Europe to the end of the twelfth century, and it has since spread worldwide. Used first in medieval tournaments, heraldic devices (designs) were used to identify the combatants in heavy armour. At the same time, because illiteracy was almost universal and forgery prevalent, laws were passed making the sealing of contracts and other agreements compulsory. The seal bore the same symbols as the arms carried into battle, and as estates passed from father to son, the heraldic devices by which the owner would be recognised also became hereditary in nature.

Heraldry and the role of the heralds, developed over the centuries, is now governed by the College of Arms, which is part of the royal household. The Officers of Arms have jurisdiction on behalf of the Sovereign in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In Scotland the equivalent of the College of Arms is The Court of the Lord Lyon, headed by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms. These days the principal duties of the heralds are to record arms and pedigrees, grant new arms, take part in high ceremonial occasions, (such as the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II), and settle matters of precedence.

Modern heraldry is not only personal and familial, but also includes civic heraldry – the coats of arms and other heraldic symbols used by nations, cities, towns, and villages. Additionally, corporate heraldry can be found in coats of arms used by businesses.

*Entrance to the  
College of Arms  
in London.*



Numerous personal grants of arms are still made by the College of Arms each year. Famous grantees in more recent memory include rock legends Sir Paul McCartney and Sir Elton John. However, you don't need to be either a member of the aristocracy or famous to apply for a grant of arms. The qualifying criteria require you to be a subject of His Majesty, of good character and 'suitably eminent'. Lastly, you must have the financial means to pay the College of Arms the requisite fee!

### The Value of Heraldry in Genealogical Research

A coat of arms may contain clues for genealogists and local historians alike, possibly providing a key to unlocking previously unsolved mysteries, and links to genealogical sources such as parish, manorial, and Alumni records, amongst many others. In particular, heraldic documentation including Grants of Arms, Heraldic Visitations, and Heraldic Rolls, may provide valuable details of a pedigree.

Where parish registers are missing, deciphering the heraldry might provide the missing connections. An heraldic shield may include a number of different designs, representing different individuals linked by marriage, contributing to family research in a very visual way. Heraldry is not solely limited to charting the lives of the well-heeled, as many 'armigers' – being those legitimately entitled to bear arms, came from humble beginnings and both parties to a marriage were not always armigerous.

### An Achievement of Arms

The shield is the principal hereditary element of an Achievement of Arms. Some additional elements are only used specifically for entitled individuals or organisations.



# Really Useful Bulletin



## ***The Parts of an Achievement of Arms***

**The Shield:** The most important feature of an Achievement of Arms is the shield, also known as an escutcheon, upon which is the heraldic design of the coat of arms. [It is a misconception to call a shield or escutcheon a 'crest' - see definition of a crest below].

**The Helm (armoured helmet):** Above the escutcheon is the armoured helmet or helm. The particular style has defined the rank of the bearer since the seventeenth century.

**Crest:** Mounted on the helm is the crest, which is also an hereditary element. The crest is secured by a wreath or torse (see next).

**Wreath or Torse:** Two pieces of coloured silk cloth twisted together, used to secure the crest.

**Mantling or Lambrequin:** From the wreath or torse, descends the mantling or lambrequin. This was originally a piece of cloth worn to protect the nape of the neck from the hot sun in the Holy Land.

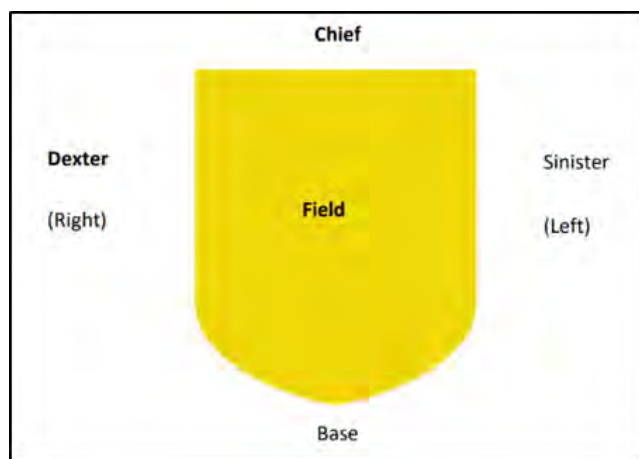
**Supporters:** Supporters may be placed on each side of the shield. They are granted only to an armigerous peer of the realm, or a knight of one of the principal orders of chivalry, and corporate bodies. The image above is the coat of arms of the Tallow Chandlers Livery Company.

**Bracket or Compartment:** The supporters stand on a bracket or compartment, the latter often depicted as a grassy mound.

**Motto:** A motto is written on a scroll usually beneath the achievement, although sometimes above the crest. (The motto is part of the grant of armorial bearings in Scotland, but not in England, where it may be adopted, changed, or removed.)

## ***The structure of the Shield /'Escutcheon'***

The most important element of the Achievement of Arms is the shield or escutcheon, and the different parts are named to aid the description of designs that are placed upon it.



*Figure 1 Parts of a shield*

The surface or background of a shield is known as the '*field*'. The upper portion of the shield is called the chief and the lower portion the base. The left-hand side of the shield, from the point of view of an onlooker, is termed the dexter and the right is the sinister. (Although 'dexter' actually means 'right' and 'sinister' means 'left', these terms describe the escutcheon from the bearer's point of view, not the onlooker's.) The chief and the dexter are regarded as being positions of higher honour than the base and the sinister, and this is of significance when completing a blazon (the description) of a coat of arms.

## ***The Language of Heraldry***

As heralds worked to record details of the coats of arms borne by combatants in war and at tournaments in peacetime, a specific heraldic language and system of recording the details was developed to provide clear, accurate notation.

The language of heraldry has its own vocabulary, grammar and syntax. All of these elements are important when describing a complex coat of arms, and essential when identifying a coat of arms.

The specialised heraldic language used to describe coats of arms is known as **blazonry**. Many of the terms specific to English heraldry are of French origin, as Anglo-Norman French was the language of the Court during the twelfth to fourteenth centuries. There are important distinctions to note here:

- The Blazon: Description of a coat of arms specifying the essential, distinctive elements.
- To Blazon: To describe a coat of arms in such a manner that an accurate drawing may be made from the description.
- Blazonry: The art of describing coats of arms.



# Really Useful Bulletin

## Heraldic Design and Vocabulary

Within the scope of this article it is only possible to give a brief overview of the building blocks of heraldry, as it takes time and practice to learn all the varied details of heraldic design and vocabulary. However, decoding a coat of arms is a fascinating challenge, and anyone with a smattering of school French may soon grasp the basic terminology.

Tincture	Blazon	Trick	Hatching
Gold, Yellow	Or	O	
Silver, White	Argent	A	
Red	Gules	G	
Blue	Azure	Az	
Black	Sable	S	
Green	Vert	V	
Purple	Purple	P	

Figure 2 Heraldic Tinctures

The table at Figure 2 shows the different colours known as '*Tinctures*', which are described in the second column in heraldic language known as the '*Blazon*'. Next, the '*Trick*' is a form of shorthand used to note the tinctures; and '*Hatching*', is a means of denoting the colours of heraldic designs etched on a hard surface, such as metal or stone.

The tinctures shown are comprised of two metals (gold and silver), and five colours. In addition to the tinctures there are a number of *furs*. Principal amongst these is *Ermine*, represented by black ermine tails upon a white field. There are also other variants including: *Ermines* - white tails on a black field, *Erminoise* - black tails on a yellow field, and *Pean* - gold tails on a black field.

## Heraldic Charges

The heraldic terminology for the numerous 'devices' or designs and shapes used (known as '*Charges*') that are found on coats of arms, although of endless variety, may be grouped in different ways. The charges are either geometric shapes (known as '*Ordinaries*' and '*Sub-ordinaries*'), or, any other object that might be placed on the shield, which may be either animate e.g. birds, lions, and mythical beasts, or inanimate, including amongst others, stars, trees, crosses and castles.

The best way to learn the heraldic terminology is to take a step-by-step approach.

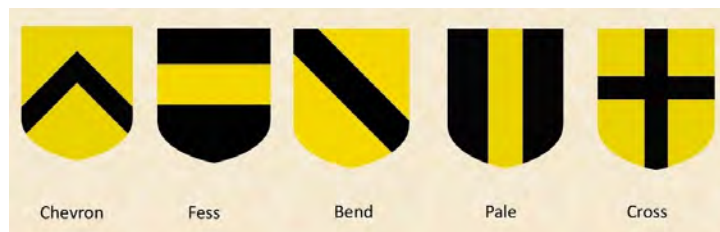


Figure 3: Examples of a few of the geometric shapes known as '*Ordinaries*' used in heraldic designs.

Over time designs developed and were extended, as the number of coats of arms being used also increased. It was important to ensure individuality and that the rule of 'One Man, One Coat' was followed. This led to more detailed designs including the use of plain or decorative lines, as well as divided and sometimes patterned fields. The shields below show some examples of the variety of different charges, with heraldic names of the charges shown in *italics*, that might be found:



*Mullets* (five pointed stars)



*Crosses crosslet fitchy* ('fitchy' indicates a pointed base)



*Annulets* (rings)

The next stage is to understand what might be termed as the 'rules of heraldic grammar', in order to accurately '*blazon*' a complete coat of arms.

The first step is to build the blazon in the correct order. The principal charge, whether a geometric shape or any other object, occupies the most commanding position on the shield, normally the centre.



First, name the *Field*,  
**Or,**

Next: the *principal charge*  
.... a **chevron Sable,**



Next: *other charges* on the field  
..... **between three mullets Gules**

The completed blazon reads: *Or, a chevron Sable, between three mullets Gules.*





# Really Useful Bulletin

## Heraldic Sources for Genealogical Research

Having acquired some knowledge of blazoning, it is possible to use the two-way bridge between heraldry and genealogy. For this purpose, one of the essential tools is the reference work, entitled Papworth's *Ordinary of British Armorial Bearings*, usually known as 'Papworth'. First published in 1874, this work effectively 'reverse engineered' an earlier publication, (Burke's *General Armory* often known as BGA), that the author described as a *Registry of all armorial bearings from the earliest to the present time, including the late grants by the College of Arms*.

The key difference between Papworth and BGA is that, while the latter comprises an alphabetical list by surname of the bearers of arms, Papworth provides an index of heraldic blazons arranged alphabetically. Using Papworth's ingenious system of organisation it is possible to identify a coat of arms. Both sources are available online.

To illustrate this, here is a simple case study of the coat of arms shown below.

### Case Study

With the correct blazon, the researcher can identify or confirm the relevant family from a coat of arms. Here is an example of that process. So, first identify the blazon.



The field is **Argent**.

Here the principal charge is a **fess** – a band across the middle of the shield, as seen in the examples of geometric shapes above. The colour (tincture) is red or '**Gules**'. Thus, the blazon so far reads '**Argent, a fess Gules...**'

Next, the remaining charges on the shield, are identified as '**six crosses crosslet fitchy**'.

The blazon then becomes '**Argent, a fess between six crosses crosslet fitchy Gules**'...and that is the blazon solved! [Note in this instance as the tincture of the fess and the crosses are the same, the tincture is only recorded at the end, after the crosses are described.]

Having completed the blazon, the next step is to consult Papworth, where the following entry is found, matching the blazon:

"Argent, a fess between six crosses crosslet fitchy Gules.  
CRAVEN, Earl of Craven. CRAVEN Brockhampton Park, co. Gloucester...."

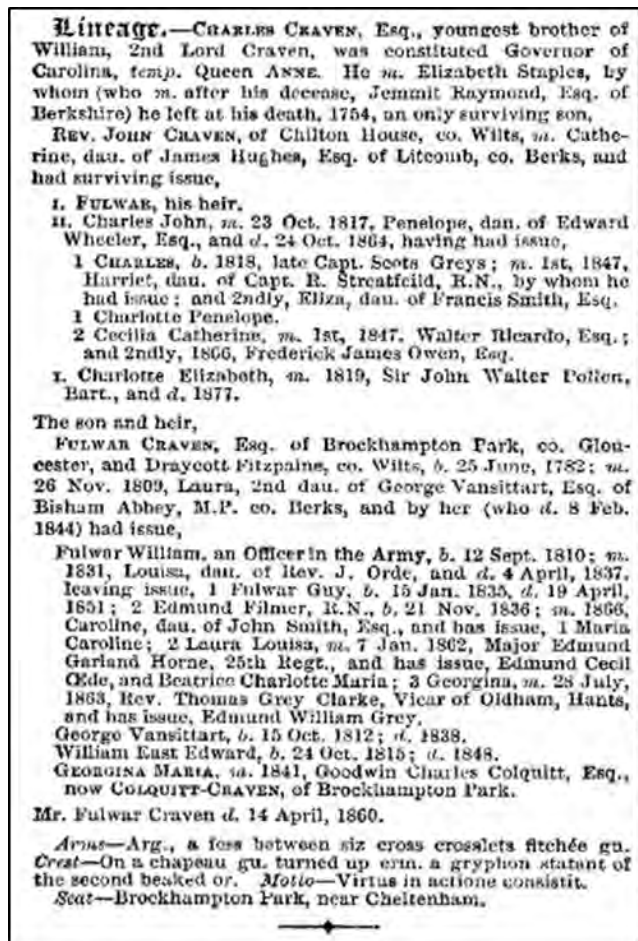
Now that the name has been identified as CRAVEN it is possible to cross-check in Burke's *General Armory* for any further details. A number of entries are shown for different branches of this ancient family, including:

"CRAVEN (Brockhampton Park, co. Gloucester) Ar. a fess between six crosses crosslet fitchy gu. *Crest:* On a chapeau gu. turned up erm. a griffin statant wings elevated erm. beaked and foremembered or. *Motto:* Virtus in actione consistit.

With the name CRAVEN confirmed, the next step is to refer one of the directories of published genealogies, of which George W. MARSHALL's *The Genealogist's Guide* (generally known just as 'Marshall'), is the best known and, often considered the most comprehensive, and available online. For the surname CRAVEN in Marshall, there are a number of sources listed. Only the most relevant to this research are included in this extract:

CRAVEN. Burke's *Commoners*, i. 180, (Burke's) **Landed Gentry, (of Brockhampton Park) 2,3,4,5,6,7,8. Burke's Extinct Baronetcies**, (et al).....

Two of the sources were particularly relevant. First, *Burke's Landed Gentry 7th edition 1886*, detailed the lineage of the Craven family of Brockhampton Park from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries, with a detailed narrative pedigree, including the families at each generation and marriages of sons and daughters (see below).



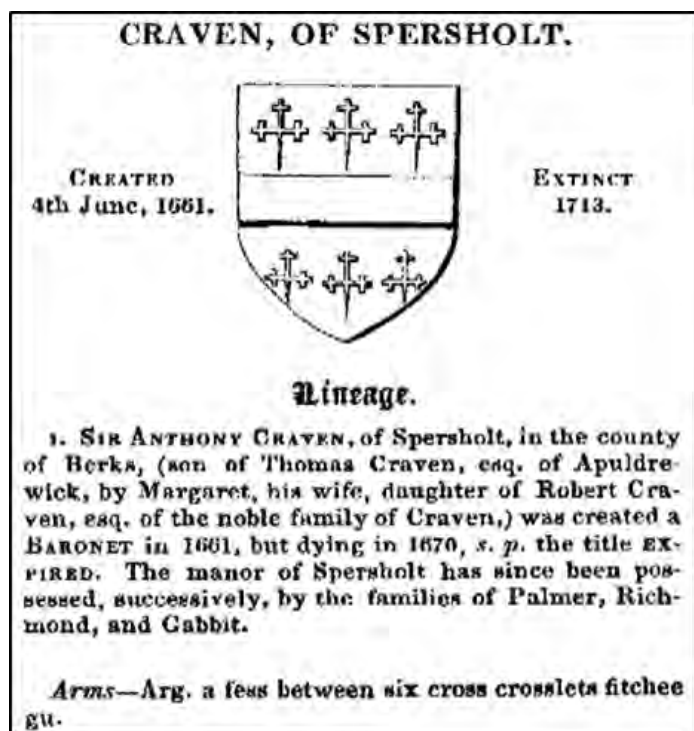
(Above) Extract from Burke's *Landed Gentry 7th edition 1886*



# Really Useful Bulletin

Although the heraldic details are confirmed, no image of the heraldry is included.

Secondly, Burke's *Extinct Baronetcies* provides details of a branch of the ancient family, CRAVEN of Spersholt, aka Sparsholt (Berkshire), who was created a Baronet in 1661, however, the title expired on the death of Sir Anthony CRAVEN. The entry gives interesting details of the manor of Spersholt held since the CRAVEN family, by the families of Palmer, Richmond and Cabbit.



Above: Extract from Burke's *The Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*. 2nd Edition. 1844

There are a number of other sources that would contribute to extending the research and CRAVEN pedigree further.



Local research in Berkshire located the CRAVEN coat of arms outside the *Craven Arms* at Enborne! Although the tinctures of the crosses are not that clear, and may not be accurately depicted, it is nonetheless another research opportunity, and a possible clue to research the history of the location and inhabitants from the past.

## Identification and Alliances

Important elements of heraldic identification are the genealogical clues to marriage, shown through the system of '**marshalling of arms**'. There are a number of variables to consider, however, this can generally be described as the arrangement of coats of arms representing individuals and marriage. The arms may be impaled or quartered, and both systems include the coat of arms from the female line as well as male ancestors. If there are a number of quarterings this is the equivalent of a visual family tree. Researching the quarterings may identify the marriage alliances of ancestors and their spouses. The examples below show fictitious heraldic arms.

Example of an impaled coat of arms, representing the marital arms of a male armiger whose wife was also from an armigerous family. The wife had brothers who continued the heraldic line through their male heirs.



*Blazon: Or, a bend Sable, impaling Azure, a fess Argent*

*[The arms of the male line are shown on the dexter side of the shield, and the female line on the sinister side]*

Example of a quartered coat of arms, representing *inherited* arms, depicting the marriage of a male ancestor to an heraldic heiress.



*Blazon: Quarterly, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Or, a bend Sable; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Azure, a fess Argent.*

*[The male arms are shown in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters, top left and bottom right. The female line is shown in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters, top right and bottom left].*

## Conclusion

Within the scope of this article it has only been possible to give a brief introduction to the vast subject of heraldry. Hopefully you may find heraldry in your local churches, and numerous other locations, that provide clues to widen family and local history research. There are also many local and regional heraldry societies, as well as the national organisation *The Heraldry Society* – see their website: [www.theheraldrysociety.com](http://www.theheraldrysociety.com)





# Really Useful Bulletin

## Want to know more?

**IHGS – The School of Family History** offers a comprehensive programme of online **Heraldry Tutorials**, led by tutors Ann Ballard and Chris Broom, covering the key aspects of the study of heraldry. These also complement the more detailed distance-learning Heraldry Course (revised and updated), which leads to qualifications in association with the Heraldry Society. For further details visit <https://www.ihgs.ac.uk/courses-heraldry> or contact, in the first instance, [enquiries@ihgs.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@ihgs.ac.uk).

## Useful heraldic sources

In addition to the sources described in this article, all of which are available online (see [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)), there are other useful publications. Although the language and terminology of heraldry can be complex at times, glossaries such as John Brooke-Little's *An Heraldic Alphabet* (published by Robson Books in 1973, revised 1975) and *A Glossary of Terms used in Heraldry* by Henry Gough and James Parker (published 1894, republished by Gale Research in 1966) are very useful. The latter is available online, at [www.heraldsnet.org/saitou/parker/index.htm](http://www.heraldsnet.org/saitou/parker/index.htm).

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Chris Broom for contributions to this article.



Ann Ballard L.H.G.  
Professional Genealogist,  
IHGS Tutor for the Heraldry  
and Higher Certificate courses

## About the author

My passion for family history started in the 1970s, when family papers and photos from the early nineteenth century were passed to me following the death of my grandfather. I have worked on genealogical research over many years, and graduated from IHGS having gained the Higher Certificate, the Diploma in Genealogy, and the Licentiate'ship. I have also successfully completed The Heraldry Society Elementary and Intermediate examinations in Heraldry. During my main career in the NHS until the mid 1990s, I obtained qualifications in nursing and management, and also in adult education. I have now been a tutor with IHGS on the Higher Certificate and Heraldry courses for over ten years. My particular interest (if not an obsession!) is Heraldry.

# Manorial Documents

Completion of the Manorial Documents Register (MDR) was recently announced by The National Archives (TNA). This source covers England and Wales but there are gaps where the records of manors have disappeared. These documents are so historically important that, since the 1920s, to move them outside the country requires permission of the Master of the Rolls.

Soon after TNA announced that the MDR was complete, a find was made...in Scotland.

A son had travelled from Lithuania to clear his deceased father's home in Hawick. The father had been something of a collector of all things interesting but left no details of what his collection included. Fortunately the son realised that a particular bundle looked as though it should be kept. He took it to Hawick Heritage Hub where they immediately knew it was not a document relating to property in Scotland. Help was sought.

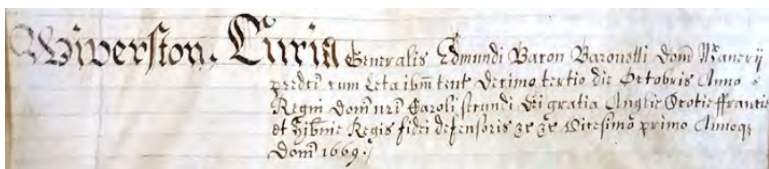


Illustration from TNA blog (see right)

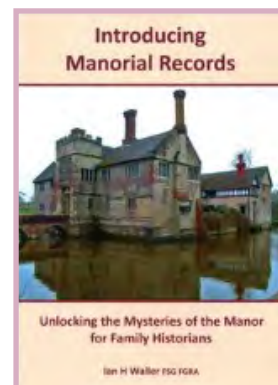
The bundle was eventually identified as a manorial roll for Wyverstone (aka Wiverston) manor in far-away Suffolk. The roll is made up of eighteen sheets of vellum stitched together. It covers the late 1660s.

The roll is being transferred to the Suffolk Record Office.

Full story at: <https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/17th-century-manorial-records-an-unexpected-find/>

It just shows that "missing" records do occasionally reappear. We hope that anyone finding interesting-looking items will take them to their nearest archive for evaluation and identification.

Family History Books has a most readable book *Introducing Manorial Records: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Manor for Family Historians*. You can find out more, and order at: [www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/introducing-manorial-records-unlocking-the-mysteries-of-the-manor-for-family-historians-by-ian-waller-279](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/introducing-manorial-records-unlocking-the-mysteries-of-the-manor-for-family-historians-by-ian-waller-279)





# Family History Societies



**Diss Family History  
Group**

Website: [www.tharston-past.info/DFHG/index.html](http://www.tharston-past.info/DFHG/index.html)

Diss Family History Group—new event!

## **History Fair**

**11<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Roydon Village Hall,**

High Road, Diss, IP22 5RB

**From 10am until 4pm**

*Entry and car parking is FREE!*

All exhibits have some connection with history or are traditional crafts that have been carried on for many years. Organisations taking part include Suffolk FHS, Norfolk FHS, Mid-Norfolk FHS, Royal British Legion, Norfolk Freemasons and others. Representing the young folk will be the Brownies, Guides and Army Cadets. Traditional craftsmen will have many items for sale including pottery, leatherwork.....rock work and much more .

There will be a special event for children where, in our mock-up Victorian nursery, they can be photographed dressed in appropriate clothing if they wish. Traditional “old fashioned” sweets will also be available for purchase from *Will's Tuck Box*.

A good range of refreshments will be available throughout the day in a comfortable seating area and home-made cakes can be purchased to take home.

We are also planning a surprise event to take place during the day.

Don't let the only thing missing be YOU!

Please see our [website](#) for further details.



**City of York and  
District Family  
History Society**

The Raylor Centre, James Street, off Lawrence Street, YORK YO10 3DW

Website: [www.yorkfamilyhistory.org.uk](http://www.yorkfamilyhistory.org.uk)

Email: [yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com](mailto:yorkfamilyhistory@btopenworld.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/YorkFHS/](https://www.facebook.com/YorkFHS/)

Twitter: [@YorkFHS](https://twitter.com/YorkFHS)

We've been supporting individuals and families with their search for their ancestors wherever they are from, since 1975. We celebrated our Silver Jubilee in 2000.

And it's not just for York inhabitants – our searches are worldwide.

### ***How do we do it?***

- ◆ We arrange monthly talks on all kinds of genealogy and local history themes.
- ◆ We have a small group of genealogy experts on site through the week to advise and break down those brick walls.
- ◆ We issue a publication three times a year with advice, stories from contributors and up-to-date family history news.
- ◆ We hold a range of archives relating to York and Yorkshire and access is totally free including family history websites like Find My Past and Ancestry.
- ◆ Representatives from York FHS attend a range of other society talks including local history societies to share news, finds and the latest publications.

We have a worldwide membership and offer guidance over the phone, by email and face-to-face help at our society office in James Street, York.

We welcome visitors and can usually accommodate around six researchers at a time.

Details of forthcoming monthly talks are available on our website. Meetings are held first Wednesday of every month except January. The talks are held at the Friends Meeting House in New Earswick, York. Main contacts: Pam Elliott, Steve Barrett or John Neale.

***Steve Barrett***



# Family History Societies



## Weston-super-Mare and District Family History Society

Weston-super-Mare and District FHS will be holding an

**Open Day  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall,  
Baytree Rd., Weston-super-Mare BS22 8HQ  
From 10am-4pm**

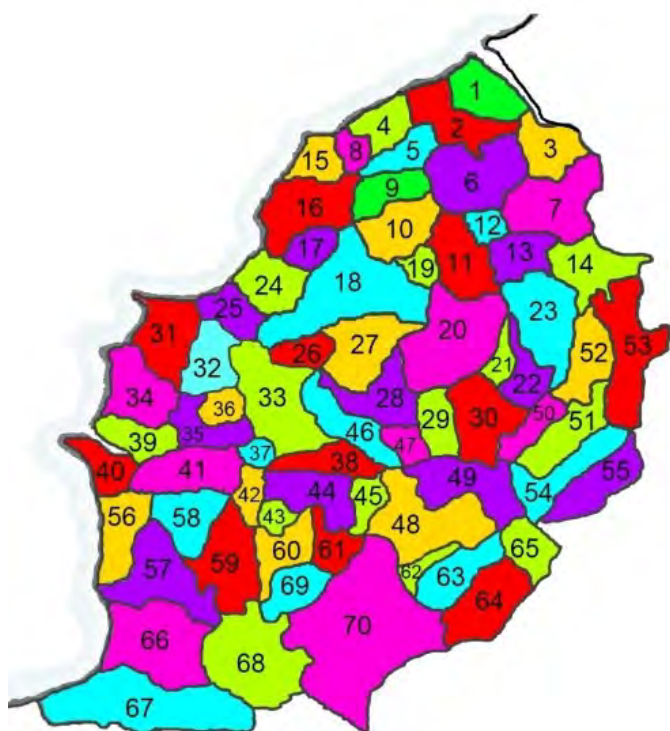
**Free entry  
Light refreshments available**

Local and family history societies will be attending

Further information available from Brian Airey,  
secretary via website <http://wsmfhs.org.uk/>

*Please note this is a change of date due to the King's coronation.*

The area covered by the society. There is a key to the  
parishes on the society's website.



## **CALLING ALL *BULLETIN* READERS!**

**If you have not already done so, you really  
should join a family history society - they  
exist for your benefit and mutual support.**

As you are interested in family history you should join  
a family history society where you will be made  
welcome. People who join a society can meet with like  
-minded enthusiasts thus able to offer mutual support  
and assistance.

An exchange of ideas and information helps you to  
advance your research and gain a greater  
understanding and knowledge about research  
techniques and how your ancestors lived. You might  
even demolish that proverbial brick wall!

At least one of the many diverse societies will likely be  
of interest to you irrespective of the origins of your  
ancestors. Annual membership fees usually range  
between £10 - £20.

The Federation's website has a section about joining a  
local family history society

[www.familyhistoryfederation.com/join-fhs](http://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/join-fhs)

Also on the Federation site are links to member  
societies and groups making your search for the  
society nearest to you, or in the area of your  
forebears, or one with a specialism (e.g. Romany and  
Traveller FHS) oh so simple!

[www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az](http://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az)



***Supporting family historians  
since 1974***

The Really Useful Bulletin welcomes contributions from all Federation member organisations.

It is opportunity to promote *your* society to the extensive Bulletin readership.





# Really Useful Bulletin

## News from the Federation

### FHF Out and About

The first outing of 2023 will be at Sandown Park Racecourse for Crafting Live on **28th and 29th January**. FHF is on stand E04. If you are in the area, why not visit the show and call at our stand to say hello? Show tickets are £5. Full details: [www.craftinglive.co.uk](http://www.craftinglive.co.uk)



FHF will again be at **SEC, Glasgow** for the Creative Craft Show from **2nd to 4th March**. Please note this show is not running on Sunday.

FHF will also be at the **NEC, Birmingham 16th to 19th March**.

The **Bottle Top Family Tree workshop** with FHF Chairman Steve Manning is available to book at both events: [www.creativecraftshow.co.uk/workshops/](http://www.creativecraftshow.co.uk/workshops/) See you there!



There is a ticket offer for Glasgow: for a 40% reduction quote code **SPRING40**.

[www.creativecraftshow.co.uk/glasgow-march-2023/](http://www.creativecraftshow.co.uk/glasgow-march-2023/)

### Family History Books



#### *New initiative—digital books*

Many family historians will say they prefer reading “paper” but with escalating costs of printed book production, FHBO feels that digital publishing offers great opportunities for making useful material readily available and affordable for family historians of all levels of experience.

In the coming months, selected titles from the “[legacy titles](#)” collection at Family History Books Online (FHBO) are to be digitised and made available as digital downloads through the [FHBO shop](#).

#### *Can you help us to develop the coverage?*

Do you have any “turn to” books, particularly those published by the Federation (such as Gibson Guides), that are not in the legacy titles section of the FHBO website? We invite you to tell us about the book (title, author, publisher) so that we can explore if the item can be reproduced in a digital format. Let’s work together for the benefit of the wider family history community.

We look forward to hearing from [you!](#)

Contact: [sales@familyhistoryfederation.com](mailto:sales@familyhistoryfederation.com)



**RootsTech 2023** takes place in the Salt Palace Convention Centre, Salt Lake City  
**2nd—4th March**

Tickets for the live event are \$98 US

Don’t worry if you are not in the US in early March—you can still participate online, and free!

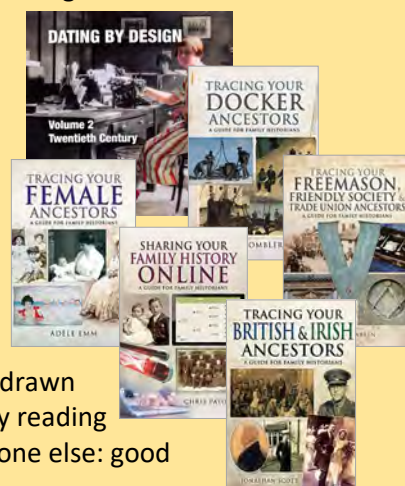
Full details: [www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home](http://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home) where you will also find links to lectures on a raft of topics to help with your research techniques and understanding.

### What was in Santa’s Sack?

In the December *Bulletin*, Santa had some goodies in his sack. A large number of readers applied. The following have been contacted and arrangements made for them to receive their book.

Phil, Hertfordshire  
Liz, Staffordshire  
Christine, Staffordshire  
Paul, Devon  
Ruth, Wales  
Maggie, Suffolk

We thank everyone who took part and hope those drawn from the “cyber hat” enjoy reading their new book. For everyone else: good luck next time!





# Really Useful Back Page

## Family History Research Aids from the Experts



Parish Chest, a service from the Family History Federation, has over sixty family history societies and some twenty-plus traders, at a one-stop online shop, offering a wide range of family history materials in some sixteen categories including:

- Parish register transcriptions and more from local FHS
- Memorial inscriptions information from gravestones across the country, compiled by local FHS
- Nonconformists: Baptists, Wesleyans, Independents, Quakers and many more nonconformist lists
- Wills and Probate Indexes of wills and administrations
- Folders, printing facilities, giftware
- ..and more!

Societies and suppliers regularly add new lines, so visit to see what is there to help you add to your family tree.

[www.parishchest.com](http://www.parishchest.com)

Societies and others interested in joining Parish Chest should initially contact:

[admin@familyhistoryfederation.com](mailto:admin@familyhistoryfederation.com)



# FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com)

Family History Books has books from many publishers on all aspects of family history research. Family History Books is also a publisher of relevant titles relating to research. Family History Books is owned by the Family History Federation in order to provide a service to the genealogical community. *See Federation News.*

Family History Books has an online shop. In addition, the bookshop can be found at major live family history events around the country enabling you to view the latest titles—the stall is always very popular!



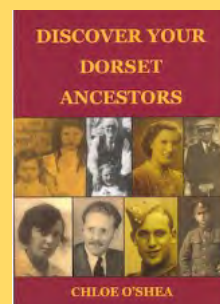
The latest title is ***Dating by Design—Twentieth Century***. This is Volume 2 for dating photographs.

Another popular recent publication is

***Discover Your Dorset Ancestors*** by Chloe O'Shea which was favourably reviewed by *Who Do You Think You Are?* magazine.

Please explore the range,  
and place your orders, at

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/)



## The REALLY USEFUL Family History Show

### 17-18 November 2023

Please view [www.fhf-reallyuseful.com](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com) for details



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